

## Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EB-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05

CIAE-00 SP-02 TRSE-00 IO-03 L-01 EUR-08 OMB-01 IGA-01

SSO-00 INRE-00 /050 W

----- 078340

O 191448Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 212

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 2185

LIMDIS

KINSHASA FOR UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, USEGJC, OVIP (ROBINSON, CHARLES W.)

SUBJECT: PASSING THE HAT FOR EGYPT

REF: (A) STATE 038058, (B) CAIRO 2151

1. I MET WITH FAHMY TODAY TO CONVEY SUBSTANCE  
REFTTEL AND TO ASK FOR GOE REACTION. PREDICTABLY,  
FAHMY WAS DISAPPOINTED. WITH BRUTAL FRANKNESS  
HE CALLED THE IDEA QUOTE STUPID UNQUOTE AND  
NOT CONSISTENT WITH WHAT HE INSISTED IS A USG  
COMMITMENT ACTIVELY AGAIN TO SOLICIT EMERGENCY  
RELIEF HELP FOR EGYPT IN CY 76. WITH THE RISKS  
SADAT HAS TAKEN IN THE POLITICAL FIELD AS A  
RESULT OF SINAI II, AND WITH CONTINUING  
SOVIET SQUEEZE, GOE BELIEVES USG HAS AN OBLIGATION TO  
ASSIST EGYPT IN A MATTER OF SUCH VITAL IMPORTANCE  
TO THE CONTINUED ABILITY OF SADAT TO PURSUE THE  
POLICY OF MODERATION UPON WHICH THE PRESIDENT  
EMBARKED. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL INEVITABLY WEAKEN  
SADAT'S ABILITY TO CONTINUE THE PEACE PROCESS.

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USG IS AWARE, HE ARGUED, OF THE TOTTERING STATE

OF THE EGYPTIAN ECONOMY. GOE IS ACTIVELY  
PLANNING TO STRENGTHEN ECONOMY IN THE YEARS AHEAD,  
BUT IS CURRENTLY FINANCIALLY PROSTRATE.

2. I POINTED OUT OUR FIRM CONVICTION THAT GOE  
SHOULD TAKE LEAD IN INTERNATIONAL FUND-RAISING  
EFFORT. I STRESSED WE ARE WILLING TO PLAY  
AN ACTIVE SUPPORTING ROLE, IF PROVIDED WITH  
NEEDED ECONOMIC DATA, AND NOTED OUR WILLINGNESS  
TO CONVENE SUCH AN INFORMAL MEETING OF AMBASSADORS  
IS INDICATIVE OF OUR WILLINGNESS PROVIDE  
APPROPRIATE HELP TO GOE EFFORTS. CLAIMING  
THE IBRD AND IMF ARE VIRTUALLY USG INSTITUTIONS,  
FAHMY ASKED WHY WE DO NOT INSTRUCT THEM TO TAKE  
THE LEAD? I POINTED OUT NEITHER IBRD NOR IMF ARE  
SUBJECT TO USG INSTRUCTIONS. IN ANY CASE, I  
UNDERSTOOD THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS INVITED  
MACNAMARA AND WITTEVEEN TO VISIT EGYPT. SUCH A  
VISIT WOULD AFFORD GOE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK FOR  
IBRD LEADERSHIP, WHICH WE HAVE FREQUENTLY POINTED  
OUT IN THE PAST MIGHT BE THE MOST INTERNATIONALLY  
ACCEPTED PROCEDURE. FAHMY COMMENTED THAT MACNAMARA  
WILL INSIST UPON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A  
QUOTE CONSULTATIVE BOARD UNQUOTE TO MONITOR  
EGYPT FINANCES. THIS WOULD BE SHADES OF THE  
1880'S. AS WE WELL KNEW, EGYPT CANNOT POLITICALLY  
ACCEPT THE PRINCIPLE OF DIRECT OR INDIRECT FOREIGN  
CONTROL OF ITS FINANCES.

3. WE WENT ROUND AND ROUND ON THE PROPOSAL FOR AWHILE,  
WITH FAHMY QUITE UNENAMORED OF THE IDEA. FINALLY,  
HOWEVER, HE RELUCTANTLY AGREED TO IT. HE TRIED  
TO GET PRIMIN MANDUH SALEM TO OBTAIN HIS  
AGREEMENT, BUT THE PRIMIN IS IN ALEXANDRIA FOR  
THE DAY. FAHMY WANTS THE MEETING, IF ONE TAKES  
PLACE, TO BE AT THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION.  
US EMBASSY CAN SEND OUT THE LETTERS. HE UNDERTOOK  
TO CALL MINFINANCE ZAKI SHAFEI TO INSTRUCT HIM TO  
PREPARE THE DESIRED DATA FOR PRESENTATION TO THE  
GROUP. HE WOULD ALSO ARRANGE TO HAVE ONE OR TWO  
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OTHER ECONOMIC MINISTERS PRESENT AND PERHAPS THE  
PRIMIN WOULD WANT TO APPEAR. FAHMY STRESSED THAT  
GOE LOOKS FOR STRONG USG SUPPORT AT SUCH A MEETING.

4. IN VIEW OF THE SHORTAGE OF TIME, I HAVE  
INSTRUCTED AID REP TO DRAFT LETTER EXTENDING  
INVITATION AT THE REQUEST OF GOE AND TO CHECK OUT  
DRAFT WITH SHAFEI BEFORE WE FINALIZED IT. HOWEVER,

IN CHECKING, IT DEVELOPED SHAFEI IS ALSO IN  
ALEXANDRIA WITH PRIMIN AND IS NOT EXPECTED BACK  
UNTIL SATURDAY. WE ARE ATTEMPTING CONTACT HIM IN  
ALEXANDRIA, BUT IN MEANTIME ARE CHECKING OUT  
DRAFT LETTER WITH HIS UNDER SEC. GAMAL NAZIR, IF  
WE COULD GET TEXT APPROVED TODAY, WE SHOULD BE  
ABLE SEND OUT LETTERS FRIDAY. AID REP WILL ALSO  
DISCUSS WITH SAHFEI/NAZIR TO WHOM LETTERS SHOULD  
BE SENT. I SUSPECT THAT THERE MAY BE  
SOME RAISED EYEBROWS ON THE PART OF THE AMBASSADORIAL  
RECIPIENTS AND WE WILL HAVE TO SEE HOW MANY  
INDICATE A WILLINGNESS TO COME.  
EILTS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 FEB 1976  
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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** RowellE0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760236/aaaabfdf.tel  
**Line Count:** 128  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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